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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,361	03/01/2004	Joseph Z. Wascow	0212.69069	9336
24978	7590	04/05/2005	EXAMINER	
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN 300 S WACKER DR 25TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60606			ZARROLI, MICHAEL C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2839	

DATE MAILED: 04/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/790,361	WASCOV ET AL.
	Examiner Michael C. Zarroli	Art Unit 2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2004.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                            2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-11,13,26,29 and 31-33 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) 12,14-25,27,28 and 30 is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 18 March 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/2/04.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Drawings***

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the “inclined leading and trailing edges” of the cord channel must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered. **The examiner sees no inclined (beveled?) edges on component 24 in the drawings.**

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement-drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as “amended.” If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR

1.121(d). If the examiner does not accept the changes, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Objections***

2. Claim 10 objected to because of the following informalities: In line 2, “a power tool” should be –the power tool--. Appropriate correction is required.
3. Claim 29 objected to because of the following informalities: In lines 4-5 “said contact means” should be –a contact means--. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-6 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Rosa et al.

Rosa discloses a power cord retaining system (title) for use with a power tool (12) configured for accommodating an extension cord (314), said system comprising: a cord capture formation (310) disposed on the tool (fig. 20) for retaining the extension cord disposed on the tool; and a cord channel (312) disposed on an outside surface of the tool and configured for contacting and supporting a loop of the cord substantially along a semi-circular path defined by the loop (fig. 20); wherein said cord capture formation and said cord channel are disposed in operational relationship to each other (figures 20 & 22) on the tool to restrain the loop of the cord in a cord plane, said cord plane being generally parallel to a major axis of the tool (figures 20 & 22).

Regarding claim 2 Rosa discloses that said cord capture formation and said cord channel are constructed and arranged on the tool for the user to view said cord channel when the cord is installed and removed (figures 22 & 23).

Regarding claim 3 Rosa discloses that the tool has a receptacle (318) for receiving an end (316a) of the extension cord, and said cord capture formation and said cord channel are disposed in relation to the tool so that the restrained cord forms only two loop planes (fig. 20 at 314 and around 312) when the cord is plugged into the tool.

Regarding claim 4 Rosa discloses that the cord capture formation is configured for maintaining an orientation of the cord that prevents bends and kinks in the cord when the cord is retained in the system (fig 20).

Regarding claim 5 Rosa discloses that said cord channel has inclined leading and trailing edges (figures 22 & 23).

Regarding claim 6 Rosa discloses a cord lock (curved end of 312) for securing the cord in said cord channel.

6. Claims 7-11, 13, 26, 29, 31-33 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Rosa et al.

Rosa discloses a plug retaining system (title) for use with a power tool configured for maintaining electrical continuity between the plug (316a) and the tool (300), said system comprising: contact means (324) configured for engaging the plug disposed on the tool; and attachment means (unnumbered figures 22 & 23) configured for attaching said contact means to the tool.

Regarding claim 8 Rosa discloses that said contact means exerts at least one of a radial force and an axial force on the plug (action of fingers of 306 in figures 20 & 23).

Regarding claim 9 Rosa discloses a docking enclosure (322) provided on said tool, wherein said attachment means are attached to said docking enclosure (fig. 21).

Regarding claim 10 Rosa discloses a cord retaining system for use with a (the) power tool configured for accommodating an extension cord (314), said cord retaining system comprising; a cord capture formation (310) for retaining the extension cord (fig. 20) disposed on the tool; and a cord channel (312) disposed on the tool and configured for supporting a loop of the cord substantially along an arc defined by the loop (fig. 20).

Regarding claim 11 Rosa discloses that said attachment means includes: a ring (fig. 21 at 304) disposed on the tool configured for attaching said contact means to the tool; and said contact means includes at least one finger (306) extending from said ring configured for engaging the plug.

Regarding claim 13 Rosa discloses that said ring further comprises at least one attachment formation, wherein one of said at least one attachment formation is an aperture (fig. 21 hole) configured for engaging corresponding structure (320 & 322) on the tool.

Regarding claim 26 Rosa discloses a collar (304) rotatably disposed on the tool configured for attaching said contact means to the tool (fig. 21); and said contact means includes at least one spline (306) associated with said collar and configured for engaging the plug.

Regarding claim 29 Rosa discloses a plug retaining system (title) for use with a power tool (12) configured for maintaining electrical continuity between the plug (316a) and the tool, said system comprising; a ring (304) disposed on the tool configured for attaching said contact means to the tool (figures 20 & 21); and at least one finger (306) extending from said ring configured for engaging the plug (fig. 20); wherein said at least one finger exerts at least one of a radial and an axial force of the plug (fig. 20).

Regarding claim 31 Rosa discloses that said ring further comprises at least one attachment formation, wherein one of said at least one attachment formation is an aperture (fig. 21 hole) for engaging corresponding structure (320, 322 on the tool). Regarding claim 32 Rosa discloses that said ring is friction fit into said at least one locating structure (figures 20 & 21).

*Allowable Subject Matter*

7. Claims 12, 14-25, 27, 28 and 30 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claims 12 and 30 specifically the finger with the tapered and flared

portions. Claim 14 in combination specifically the latch and clamp. Claims 17, 20 and 23 specifically the cradle and/or tether. Claim 27 specifically the spline that has a deformable free end.

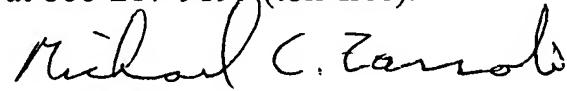
*Conclusion*

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Bunyea et al teaches a lock for a power cord. Ferranti et al teaches a retaining ring.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael C. Zarroli whose telephone number is 571-272-2101. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 to 3:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, T.C. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Michael C. Zarroli  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2839

MCZ  
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